

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/649,688

Applicant(s)

KOKOGAWA, TORU

Examiner

Jacob Y. Choi

Art Unit

2875

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 7/5/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4 and 6-17.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings were received on 7/5/2005. These drawings are acceptable.

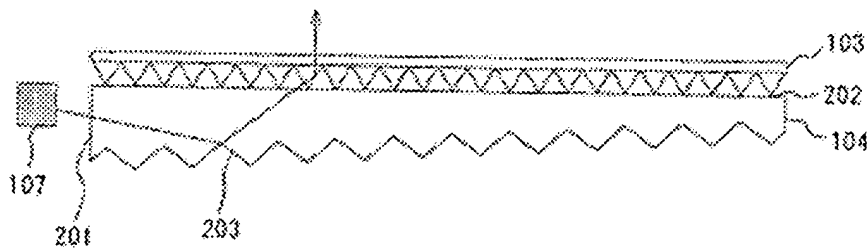
Allowable Subject Matter

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

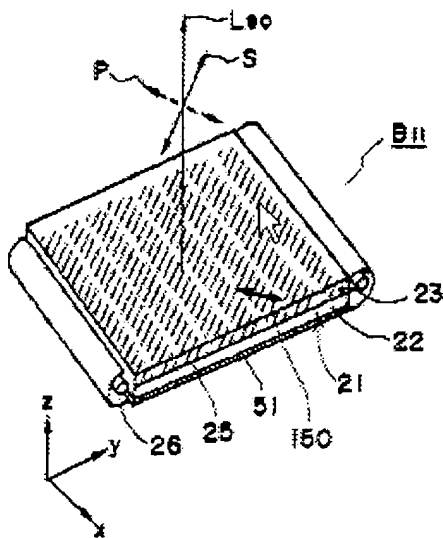
Claim 1 recites a planar light source unit comprising a light source, prism sheet, a light guide plate having a light incident surface, a light exit surface, and an anisotropic diffraction grating formed on the light exit surface or a surface opposite to the light exit surface for diffusing light in a principal diffusing direction along the light incident surface, wherein the anisotropic diffraction grating does not substantially diffuse light in a direction perpendicular to the principal diffusion direction.

Claim 10 recites a display device comprising a display panel, a planar light source unit having a light source a light guide a prism sheet where the light guide plate having a light incident surface, a light exit surface, and an anisotropic diffraction grating formed on the light exit surface or a surface opposite to the light exit surface for diffusing light in a principal diffusing direction along the light incident surface, wherein the anisotropic diffraction grating does not substantially diffuse light in a direction perpendicular to the principal diffusion direction.

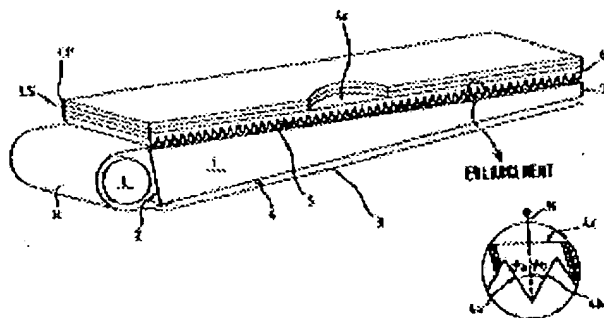
Art Unit: 2875



Hoshi (USPN 6,020,944) teaches a light transmissive light guide member, and a light source disposed on a side of the light guide member to emit light to the light guide member, wherein the light guide member includes an anisotropic grating (25).



Ohkawa (USPN 6,746,130) teaches a prism sheet and structures having a specific detailed range of the apex angle (Figure 3; column 3, lines 15-18) of 66 degrees.



Because none of the references disclosed the combination of a prism sheet structures having an apex angle of larger than 65 degrees and smaller than 68 degrees with the light guide having an anisotropic diffraction grating formed on the light exit surface or a surface opposite to the light exit surface for diffusing light in a principal diffusing direction along the light incident surface, wherein the anisotropic diffraction grating does not substantially diffuse light in a direction perpendicular to the principal diffusion direction, nor is there any motivation to combine them, the claims are deemed patentable over the prior art of record. Claims 1-4, & 6-17 are allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Amendment

3. Examiner acknowledges that the applicant has amended 1 & 10, claim 5 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 11-17 have been added.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments, see pages 9-10, filed, with respect to 7/5/2005 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The drawing objection, 35 U.S.C. 112 rejection, and 35 U.S.C. 103 rejections of 4/21/2005 has been withdrawn.


Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jacob Y. Choi whose telephone number is (571) 272-2367. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (10:00-7:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JC



**JOHN ANTHONY WARD
PRIMARY EXAMINER**